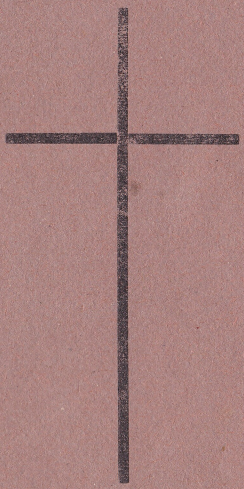
ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MILNROW

# The Messenger



Oct 1972

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# THE MESSENGER

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## FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

THEME: God and the World He has made

Oct. 1st Beauty and good design in the temple
Jesus grows up.
Luke 2: 40-52

8th The pattern of creation
Gen. 1: 1 -13

15th God's reliable love is reflected in nature.
Psalm 136: 1-9

22nd Beauty and design are offered to God.
1 Chron. 28: 11-21

29th God in the world He has made.
Romans 1: 18-25

*

October

1972

*

Dear Friends,

During the course of the month of October, we shall be saying good-bye to the Congregational Church as many have known it, and be embarking on a new adventure, taking our first steps into the United Reformed Church. Perhaps at this point in time we may be forgiven for looking back for a brief moment to that strange question raised by Christ at a time when the success of his ministry was most obvious: "When the Son of Man cometh shall he find faith on the earth?"

The people pressed upon him to hear the Word of God - all men sought him.. His own disciples were convinced that "the hour had come," and expected him at any moment to take his power and reign. And yet, at this moment which can only be described from a human standpoint at any rate, as our Lord's "finest hour" - the hour of his apparent triumph - He introduced this note of doubt and misgiving: "When the Son of Man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

Many followed Him for the sake of signes and wonders: His works of mercy; his miracles of healing; the loaves and fishes. Many followed Him who undoubtedly identified the Kingdom of Heaven with a new social order. They were enthusiasts, these people, who saw in the teachings of Christ the blueprint for a better world. But was it enough?.... Was this the faith he sought to establish in the hearts of men?

On many occasions during our Church years we give thanks to Almighty God for the example and inspiration of all those who down through the centuries have "fought a good fight and kept the faith." We sometimes talk about the"faith once delivered to the Saints." What was this Faith? Was it a faith which had to do with improved social conditions? Was it a question of building Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land?

So what is our faith - our relationship with God, going to prompt us to do during the days, months and years that lie ahead for us? Inspire us, I hope, to plan and put into action by every means we have, the great Christian principles and values that have been handed down to us by those who have gone before, in order that Christ can be seen to be working in and through us, and that we may with others be partakers of the Heavenly Kingdom, making sure without any doubt that "When the Son of Man comes" he will find faith in Milnrow and Littleborough.

With every blessing,

Allan Roberts

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MARRIAGE

MARILYN ANN BELL of 12 Ladyhouse Close, Milnrow
and
STEPHEN WILLIAM HUGHES of 24 Friars Crescent, Kirkholt, Rochdale.
At St. Stephen's on 2nd September, the Revd. Donald Whitehead officiating.
Congratulations and best wishes.

++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

This may apply to you - at Milnrow:

1. If you know of any of our congregation and friends, who are in hospital, will you please notify one of the ladies on page 16 who will be pleased to arrange a visit.

2. Will secretaries of sections please let Mrs. Pauline Royle have any reports of events for the "Observer".....and any announcements and reports of activities to the Messenger Editor, no later than the 15th of each month.

Thank you!

If you don't understand the title of this item, ask one of the Primary children. You can also ask:

"What is an Iban?
"Where would you see a long house?

and they still know the answer because during the September course: "Meeting New People," they have been taking a look at how people live in Malaysia and Hong Kong. The activities which proved the most popular have been learning how to write "big man" in Chinese and building Lego reproductions of Hong Kong Flats. (More information about Hong Kong on page 8).

A few week earlier we invited the children from the Beginners Department who will be moving up in October, to a "Primary Preview." This was a part of our August course on "Making New Friends." Together we enjoyed a holiday slide show and we thank Mr. Mellor for being our projectionist.

## M.M. MATTERS

As this year's Michaelmas Market, scheduled for Saturday 11th November, comes nearer the M.M. Committee are as usual planning to outdo "A_D_", "F_N_F_R_" and "W_LC_" who struggle to compete with us. There will be a top level meeting of the M.M. Board of Directors on Monday 16th October in the school at 7.30, when the Company Chairman, Sir Alec Rae, intends to discuss sales strategy.

Those who wish to help in the more humble but vital role of sales staff are asked to sign the appropriate list in the Church porch indicating which stall they wish to serve on.....

Our potty departmental manager, Mr. Jim Emmott, is taking orders for any crockery you may wish to order. Those who missed the preview in August are invited to visit 6 Ladyhouse Close on Tuesday 10th October from 7.0 pm.....Cups of coffee available.....

## WOMEN'S PAGE

Ladies! please note the following dates:

Tuesday 3rd October: 7.30 pm. "Fire Prevention"

Thursday 5th October: 7.30pm. at Blackford Bridge
Final meeting of the Bury & Rochdale Dist.
Women's Guild. Names please to Mrs. C.
Clough - transport arranged.

Friday 27th October: 7.00 pm. JUMBLE SALE.
Make way for your winter woollies!
Sort out all your jumble, and if
necessary, arrange with any of the
guild members for it be collected.
Help will be needed to sort out and
price articles on the Thursday.

Saturday 4th November: 7.30 pm.
Rochdale & District Male Voice Choir
will once more entertain us.
Leave your TV's and come & listen to
the MV's.
Tickets available from Guild members.

Tuesday 7th November: - Guild - Any Questions!
Ladies! What do you know?
Encyclopedias out, you may be called
upon to answer.

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## VACANCY FILLED

Mrs. G. Schofield of 26 Ladyhouse Lane, has commenced the duties of cleaner at St. Stephen's.

*

## TWO HELPINGS

Mrs. Letch, the wife of the methodist minister, spoke to the Women's Guild on the 29th August about "Helping One Another." Mrs. Hill presided and thanked her for her thought provoking address. The pianist was Mrs. Cockcroft and after tea and biscuits a short business meeting was held.

Those who like good food and good company are invited to give their names to Mrs. A. Stott as soon as possible. Mrs. Stott is collecting the names for the Guild Christmas Dinner, which will be held at Dearnley Cottage Hotel on the 19th December. The charge will be £1.50 plus 15p service charge.

They will be joined this year by the Mens' Fellowship, who readily agreed to the suggestion that they have a combined dinner instead of booking two separate dates.

*

## CARDS AND COUPONS

Have you ordered your Christmas Cards and gifts from the Young People's stall yet? If not you are urged to contact Mrs. K. Hill or Mrs. Light-foot who will be pleased to show you a catalogue.

Remember there are seven weeks to go to the Autumn Fair and that coupons are on sale. Please see Mrs. E. Crossley who will be pleased to supply you with up to £1,000 worth per head.

*

£7.....was raised at a Coffee Evening and Family Garden Party organised by three members of the Junior Church Staff. Clothing and materials were on sale and the £7 proceeds go to Junior Church Funds.

## A NEW MESSENGER

Mrs. K. Hill has taken over from Mr. Simpson as Littleborough correspondent of the "Messenger" and she will be pleased to receive your news and, especially, letters. In her first bulletin she writes:

"On behalf of everyone I should like to thank Mr. Roberts for his letter in the September magazine. I hope we shall heed and act upon what he says. Just one request, however, Mr. Jenkins ought to be referred to as our "former" minister rather than our "late."

"Surrounded as I am at this moment by lists and rotas, could I appeal to everyone who has indicated that they are willing to serve; Will you please exchange dates or find a substitute if you are unable to attend church when it is your turn to make coffee, read the lesson, supply the flowers or act as steward. Thank you very much!"

(.....and so say all of us. As Editor I would like to give a hearty welcome to our new member of staff, and to thank Mr. Simpson for his help in the past.)

## BELATED CONGRATULATIONS

To: Mr. & Mrs. J. Nairn on their Golden Wedding which took place on the 26th August, the same day as Mr. Jenkins' induction at Dursley. We did not forgot this anniversary any more than the 72 people who sent cards, but we were told not to mention it. However, now that it has been in the "Ob" we can surely send our good wishes.

## OFFERTORIES

| | Cash | Envelopes |
|---|---|---|
| Aug. 27th | £1.27½ | £9.25½ |
| Sept.1oth | £2.75 | £19.37 |

GETTING TO KNOW.....(2)

## HONG KONG

Hong Kong perches half on and half off mainland China. It covers the whole of an island, and several square miles of land, known as the "New Territories." It is one of the most crowded places in the world. Over 4 million people live in 398 square miles - but much of that area is rocky land, where it is impossible to build houses.

Hong Kong has hot summers, cold winters, and rain all the year round - about 85 inches of it! In spite of this Hong Kong used to suffer from severe droughts, but now vast sums of money have been spent building reservoirs to store all that wasted rainwater. Many of the people, mostly Chinese, had nowhere to live. Now the government has built large blocks of flats for the homeless. Many of the goods we buy in this country carry the label MADE IN HONG KONG, for each day ships leave Hong Kong's busy harbour, filled with goods to sell to other countries.

The Churches share the Hong Kong government's care for the people there. The Church runs schools for the flat-dwellers, provides 26,000 meals daily for hungry schoolchildren and organises play areas and community centres. For the Church there loves all the crowded thousands on that tiny island of Hong Kong.

**********

## HOW TO LIVE ON ONE POUND A WEEK -

a twelve point plan

1. Scrap all furniture except a kitchen table, a chair and a few old blankets.

2. Throw away all your clothes except your oldest outfit. Retain only one pair of shoes for the head of the family.

3. Empty the pantry and the fridge of everything except flour, sugar and salt. For tonight's dinner keep a few moldy potatoes, an onion and some dried beans. (Tomorrow's menu is undecided.)

4. Dismantle the bathroom, disconect the water and electricity.

5. Lock up the house and move into the tool shed

6. Remove all your neighbours' houses, streets, sewage and lighting. Replace with a shanty town.

7. Cancel all newspapers and return your T.V. There is one radio for the whole town.

8. Transfer the clinic and hospital to a building ten miles away and put a midwife in charge instead of a doctor.

9. Push your car into the river. Cancel all buses and trains except for one trip per week.

10. Burn all bankbooks, share certificates, pension books etc., but leave about £3 for the whole family to enjoy.

11. IN EXCHANGE you can have your very own piece of land. A third of your income from this goes to the landlord, a tenth goes to the money lender.

12. Lop off 25 years of life expectancy.

.....IT REALLY WORKS - MILLIONS HAVE TRIED IT.

## A REFUGEE PRAYS

You have somewhere, O God.....
you came to the earth to claim belonging.....
IT IS A TERRIBLE THING TO HAVE NOWHERE.

I pray for all the people of this world who have nowhere, the forgotton people, the useless people, the people who can do nothing, make nothing, hope for nothing, because they have nowhere.

I pray for children who think dwellings are made of cardboard and empty cans, that refuse heaps are fields, that milk is a rare powder to flavour water.

I pray for the other kind of being - the non-refugees
those who make war and think us a nuisance,
those who have managed to forget that we are,
those who bring hope and help and try to understand.

+

Jesus answered him, "Foxes have holes, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lie down and rest."

(Matthew 8: 20 (T.E.V.)

+

## A PRAYER

Like coming home to refuge
warmth and light and loving,
You have come O God, and come again;
and we have barred the door
and frozen shut the life we got on trust.

Forgive us.....
that we look away from you
because your love will ask us
what we cannot give,
since we forgot to gain all we must lose.

## ADVICE TO MEMBERS OF ORGANISATIONS

- If the weather is bad don't attend.
- If the weather is good don't attend.
- If you do attend, arrive late.
- If you do attend, find fault.
- If asked to take office, decline politely and always criticise those who don't do the work as well as you could.
- If not asked to take office, take umbridge.
- If asked for your opinion say you have nothing to say. After the meeting tell everyone what should have been done.
- Don't get too involved but always complain that things are being run by a clique.
- Don't pay your subscriptions and dues.
- When you do attend meetings vote for one thing and do the other.
- Always agree with people to their face, but never agree with them behind their back.
- Keep your eyes open for something wrong, and when you find it resign.
- When everything else fails - blame the secretary.

If a secretary writes a letter it's too long.
If he sends a card it's too short.
If he speaks up he's a big mouth.
If he stays quiet he's inept.
If attendance is down he should persuade more to attend.
If he does that he's a nuisance.
If he asks for your subscription he is insulting.
If he doesn't he is idle.
If anything succeeds its thanks to us.
If it fails its his fault.
If he asks for advice he's clueless.
If he doesn't he's a dictator.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,
If the others won't do it the secretary must.

(The Editor came across this item recently. He wishes to make it quite clear that it was not submitted by the secretaries of either church.)

## LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

October

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sun. 1st | 10.30 am. | Mr. J. Lord -Promotion Sunday Presentation by Mr. Nairn. |
| | 11.am. & 6.pm. | Family Church Anniversary at St. Stephens. |
| Tues. 3rd | 7.30 pm. | Women's Guild - Counc.A.Colligan. |
| Thur. 5th | 3.30 pm. | "United Reformed Church" Inauguration ceremony on BBC 2. |
| | 7.30 pm. | Bury & Rochdale Dist.Women's Guild Rally at Blackford Bridge. |
| | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Sun. 8th | 10.30 am. | Mr. A. Roberts |
| | 6.00 pm. | Rev. Wm. Purvis + Communion |
| Tues.10th | 8.00 pm. | Busy Bees"at home" -2 Centre Vale. |
| Thur.12th | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Fri. 13th | 7.00 pm. | Jumble Sale (Women's Guild) (Jumble received Thursday Evening) |
| Sun. 15th | 10.30 am. | Mrs. E. Gillon |
| Tues.17th | 7.30 pm. | Family Film Evening "Kenyi comes Home" |
| Thurs19th | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| Sun. 22nd | 10.30 am. | Mr. D. Nuttall |
| Tues.24th | 7.30 pm. | Coffee Evening (Tea Room Effort) Bring & Buy.....5p |
| Thur.26th | 7.00 pm. | Pilots |
| | 8.00 pm. | Men's Fellowship -Mr. Roy Moore "Special Education in England & Wales" |
| Sun. 29th | 10.30 am. | Rev. Wm. Purvis |

November

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sun. 5th | 10.30 am. | Mr. J. Lord |
| 6th | 7.45 pm. | Junior Church Staff Meeting |

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

| | |
|---|---|
| October 1st | Mrs. Lightfoot |
| 8th | Mrs. Nairn |
| 15th | Mrs. Stott |
| 22nd | Mrs. Tattersall |
| 29th | Mrs. Greenwood |

## CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

### SIDESMEN

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | Mrs. Hartley | Mr. H. Hill | |
| | 8th | Mr. B. Hill | Mr. F. Beattie | 10.30 |
| | | Mr. Nairn | Mr. J. Holt | 6.00 |
| | 15th | Mrs. E. Crossley | Mr. J. Hill | |
| | 22nd | Mrs. Stott | Mr. W. Barker | |
| | 29th | Mr. F. Ingham | Mr. A. Booth | |
| Nov. | 5th | Mr. B. Hill | Mrs. Hartley | |

### DEACONS COMMUNION ROTA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 8th | Mr. J. Lord | Mr. W. Barker |

### COFFEE ROTA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | Mrs. Allison | Mrs. Law |
| | 8th | Mrs. B. Holt | Mrs. L. Butterworth |
| | 15th | Mrs. V. Crossley | Mrs. S. Moss |
| | 22nd | Mrs. B. Hartley | Mrs. W. Spinks |
| | 29th | Mrs. D. Mallinson | Mrs. A. Merrick |
| Nov. | 5th | Mrs. J. Hobbs | Mrs. K. Hill |

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### FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | 'Jesus grows up'<br>Luke 2: 40-52 | Carl Mallinson |
| | 8th | 'The pattern of creation'<br>Gen. 1: 1-13; 26-28; 31 | Steven Moss |
| | 15th | 'God's reliable love is reflected in nature'<br>Psalm 136: 1-9; 23-26 | Mrs. H. Vincent |
| | 22nd | 'Beauty and design are offered to God'<br>1 Chronicles 28: 20-29 | Esther Bennett |
| | 29th | 'God in the world he has made'<br>Romans 1: 18-23 | Elizabeth Leach |
| Nov. | 5th | 'Hospitality steps across the nations'<br>2 Kings 4: 8-13 | Mrs. K. Hill |

## CHURCH DUTIES - ST. STEPHEN'S

### FAMILY WORSHIP DOOR STEWARDS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | Mr. J. Collins | Mrs. A. Collins |
| | 8th | Mrs. F. Whitworth | Mrs. J. Duffy |
| | 15th | Mr. L. Whittaker | Mrs. F. Rae |
| | 22nd | Mr. A. Bruckshaw | Mrs. L. Rawling |
| | 29th | Mr. G. Buckley | Mr. A. Rae |
| Nov. | 5th | Mr. H. Butterworth | Mrs. F. Butterworth |
| | 12th | Mr. D. Fursey | Miss M. Wood |

| DEACONS ROTA<br>EVENING DOOR STEWARDS | | | PIANIST/ORGANIST<br>EVENING WORSHIP |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | Mr. K. Hey | Mr. D. Logan |
| | 8th | Mr. G. Whitworth | Mrs. C. Hey |
| | 15th | Mr. J. Wild | Mr. J. Emmott |
| | 22nd | Mrs. E. Gillon | Mr. D. Logan |
| | 29th | Mr. J. Emmott | Mrs. C. Hey |
| Nov. | 5th | Mrs. M. Howarth | Mr. D. Logan |
| | 12th | Mr. B. Clough | Mr. J. Emmott |

### COMMUNION ROTA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | Mr. G. Whitworth | Mr. R. Gillon 8.30 am. |
| | 8th | Mr. B. Clough | Mrs. M. Howarth |
| Nov. | 5th | Mr. J. Emmott | Mr. J. Wild |

### FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. | 1st | Mrs. D. Howarth | Mrs. M. Mellor |
| | 8th | Mrs. J. Cudworth | Mrs. A. Roberts |
| | 15th | Mrs. C. Clough | Mrs. P. Royle |
| | 22nd | Mrs. E. Busil | Miss I. Tother |
| | 29th | Mrs. H. Buckley | Mrs. E. Smith |
| Nov. | 5th | Miss M. Wood | Miss A. Clegg |
| | 12th | Mrs. J. Duffy | Mrs. F. Butterworth |

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

### OFFERTORIES

| | Cash | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | am. | pm. | Envelopes | Total |
| August | £15.32 | £11.24 | £62.17 | £88.72 |

## ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

**October**

Sun. 1st FAMILY CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
8.30 am. Family Communion
11.00 am. Family Worship
6.00 pm. Evening Worship
Rev. J.Keith Ramage (Trinity Presbyterian Church)
Mon. 2nd 6.30 pm. Pilots (Each Monday)
Tues. 3rd 7.30 pm. Women's Guild -Fire Prevention
Thur. 5th 7.30 pm. Bury & Rochdale Dist.Women's Guild Rally at Blackford Bridge.
Sun. 8th 11.00 am. Mrs. E. Gillon (Baptism)
6.00 pm. Mr. A. Roberts (Service of Word & Sacrament)
Tues.10th From 7.0 pm. Crockery Preview at 6 Ladyhouse Close (See page 4)
Wed. 11th 7.30 pm. Deacons Meeting
Sun. 15th 11.00 am. Mr. A. Roberts
6.00 pm. Film Service (No. 1)
Sun. 22nd 11.00 am. Rev. B.A. Cox (Bury)
6.00 pm. "
Fri. 27th 7.00 pm. Jumble Sale
Sun. 29th 11.00 am. Mr. T.L. Baxter
6.00 pm. Rev. Wm. Purvis (Bury)

**November**

Thur. 2nd 7.30 pm. Junior Church Staff Meeting at 24 Ladyhouse Close
Sat. 4th 7.30 pm. Rochdale & Dist.Male Voice Choir
Sun. 5th 11.00 am.) Revd. R. Parker B.A., B.D.
6.00 pm.) Manchester.
Tues. 7th 7.30 pm. Women's Guild - Any Questions

**COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS**

October 1st Mrs. D. Hey
8th Mrs. F. Hawker Mrs. L. Buckley
15th Mrs. Fallon
22nd Mrs. A. Travis
29th Mrs. Brown
November 5th Miss A. Memory

ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MILNROW

and

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LITTLEBOROUGH

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## CHURCH SECRETARIES

| MILNROW | LITTLEBOROUGH |
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| Mr, Allan Roberts,<br>54 Beechfield Road<br>Milnrow.<br>Tel: ROCHDALE 42243 | Mr. F.G. Simpson,<br>121 Calderbrook Road,<br>Littleborough.<br>Tel: 061 834 44C2<br>(Business) |

*

## MESSENGER EDITOR

Counc. Ian Royle B.Sc.(Econ.),
24 Ladyhouse Close,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

*

## HOSPITAL VISITORS

MILNROW: Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory

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